



April, 2016

Dear <donor first name(s)>,

A well-spoken, mature sophomore at Boston’s Emerson College, Peyton Lewis aspires to be a broadcast journalist. Where she is attending college, her ambitions and who she is today have all stemmed from her life experiences growing up in a loving family in southwest Minnesota. Family vacations, living three years in Hong Kong, and sharing laughter and tears with an older sister has made life incredibly sweet. **Adoption has made Peyton’s life incredibly sweet.**

“My family gave me a life full of a vast array of experiences for which I’m especially grateful,” Peyton said. “It’s amazing how something I had no control over completely shaped my life. I would be a different person if I hadn’t been adopted.” Many who were adopted share Peyton’s gratitude.

Your donations help Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota create the potential for positive outcomes — whether it’s for adopted children such as Peyton who shares her journey today — a youth looking for shelter on a cold and rainy night, an older adult who receives a visit from an LSS senior companion or a married couple seeking the support of family counseling service.

<donor first names>, this Mother’s Day, please consider a gift of <2nd gift amount> or more to help us continue our work with birth families, adoptive families and children, and to give adopted children a chance to dream and thrive as Peyton has.

If not for the gift of adoption, where would Peyton be today? It’s hard to predict but since meeting her birth mother a few years ago and learning the circumstances surrounding her birth, Peyton can speculate.

A senior in high school, Peyton’s mother Christy didn’t gain much weight while pregnant — so little, in fact, she hid her pregnancy until it came time to deliver. A week shy of her 18th birthday, Christy was taken to the emergency room, claiming she was suffering an appendicitis. The hospital doctors quickly discovered the truth. They immediately prepared for the delivery and birth of Christy’s baby. Her 7-pound baby girl was completely healthy. In a whirlwind, Christy’s parents arrived at the hospital, totally unprepared to bring home a baby. There was no nursery or diapers, no clothing or formula waiting at home. Overwhelmed, they chose adoption for the baby.

(continued)



Peyton, 2nd from right, with her adoptive family.

Yes, I want to provide life-changing opportunities to children and parents alike!

Here’s my gift of: ☐ \$<> ☐ \$<> ☐ \$<> Other \$_____

☐ Please charge my gift to my credit card. I have completed the information on the other side of this card.

Please use my gift:

- ☐ Where needed most
- ☐ Services for youth
- ☐ Services for people with disabilities
- ☐ Services for adoption
- ☐ Behavioral Health Services
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Services for older adults

Please make your check payable to Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota and return this card, along with your gift in the envelope provided. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. Also, be sure our address shows through the window of the return envelope. Thank You!

<Mrs. John Q. Sample>
<Address Address>
<Address Address>
<City, ST 00000-0000>

Attn: Jodi Harpstead, CEO
P.O. Box 86
SDS 12-2054
Minneapolis, MN 55486-0086



Peyton reunites with her birth mother.

<donor first name>, your gift today provides opportunity for people like Christy and Peyton to find adoptive parents in the community and to build a foundation of belonging, self-confidence and a stable loving home.

In hindsight nearly 20 years later, Christy can see she had other options for Peyton had she not been scared silent. A difficult conversation with her family could have made a difference. Those options are bygones Peyton and Christy have moved past since building a relationship. While their relationship will never replace the bond of love Peyton and her adoptive mom have built over a lifetime, it has helped satisfy long-held curiosities and questions for both mother and daughter.

Peyton has no qualms about the way life has transpired. She has enjoyed opportunities that may never have come her way if not for adoption.

<donor first names>, thank you for your ongoing support – it means the world to us and the families we serve. Please make another gift today to help extend LSS’ long history of enriching lives through adoption. A gift of <2nd gift amount> or <3rd gift amount> can help make Mother’s Day extra special this year.

Honor and recognize that special woman in your life who placed your hopes and dreams as part of their own, who nurtured your abilities on life’s playing field, and who fostered courage in your heart to help you grow into the generous person we are truly thankful for.

With your gift today, LSS will recognize the special woman in your life with a Mother’s Day recognition card and a note confirming you hold her in high regard for all she has done for you along the way.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Jodi Harpstead
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Tributes received by April 29, 2016 will be sent a personalized card in time for Mother’s Day.

P.P.S. Now it’s even easier to help change lives! Join our monthly giving program, Partners in Changing Lives. Enroll today using the form below.



HONOR AND RECOGNIZE

THAT SPECIAL WOMAN
IN YOUR LIFE WHO
PLACED YOUR HOPES
AND DREAMS AS PART
OF HER OWN...

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the LSS Community,
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Partners In Changing Lives – Credit Card Information

1 To give using your credit card, please fill out the information below:



☐ I would like to make easy automatic monthly gifts of \$_____ as a Partner in Changing Lives. This is ongoing support and will remain in effect until I authorize LSS to discontinue it.

☐ I would like to make a one-time gift of \$_____

Card# _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. date ____ / ____

Name on card _____ CSC#: _____

Signature _____

☐ I would like to be a Partner in Changing Lives and make my monthly gift through electronic funds transfer (EFT) from my checking account.

EFT Authorization: I/We authorize Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota to transfer \$ _____ each month from the checking account indicated on the enclosed voided check. This monthly commitment will remain in effect until LSS has received written notification from me (or either of us) that it is to be terminated. (Please remember to enclose your voided check with this form).

Signature _____ Date _____

Primary Phone _____

2 Mother’s Day Tribute Gift.

☐ In honor of: ☐ In memory of:

3 Please send a Mother’s Day card to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip _____

